

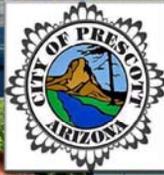
CITY OF PRESCOTT PARKS, RECREATION & LIBRARY

2007 Annual Report

Parks



Sports Events



Childrens Events



Programs

Recreation for Prescott

Department Mission

To preserve, protect, and enhance the parklands, trails, lakes and public open spaces of the City of Prescott for the benefit of citizens and visitors, acting as conscientious stewards of the environment.

To provide leisure services system that is responsive to and directed by the diverse and changing needs of our patrons.

To plan for the future growth and expansion of park facilities, lake properties, open spaces, trails, activity centers, and library services.

To operate well-maintained facilities including parks, recreation centers, and library facilities, supporting our image of a polished city – beautiful and clean.

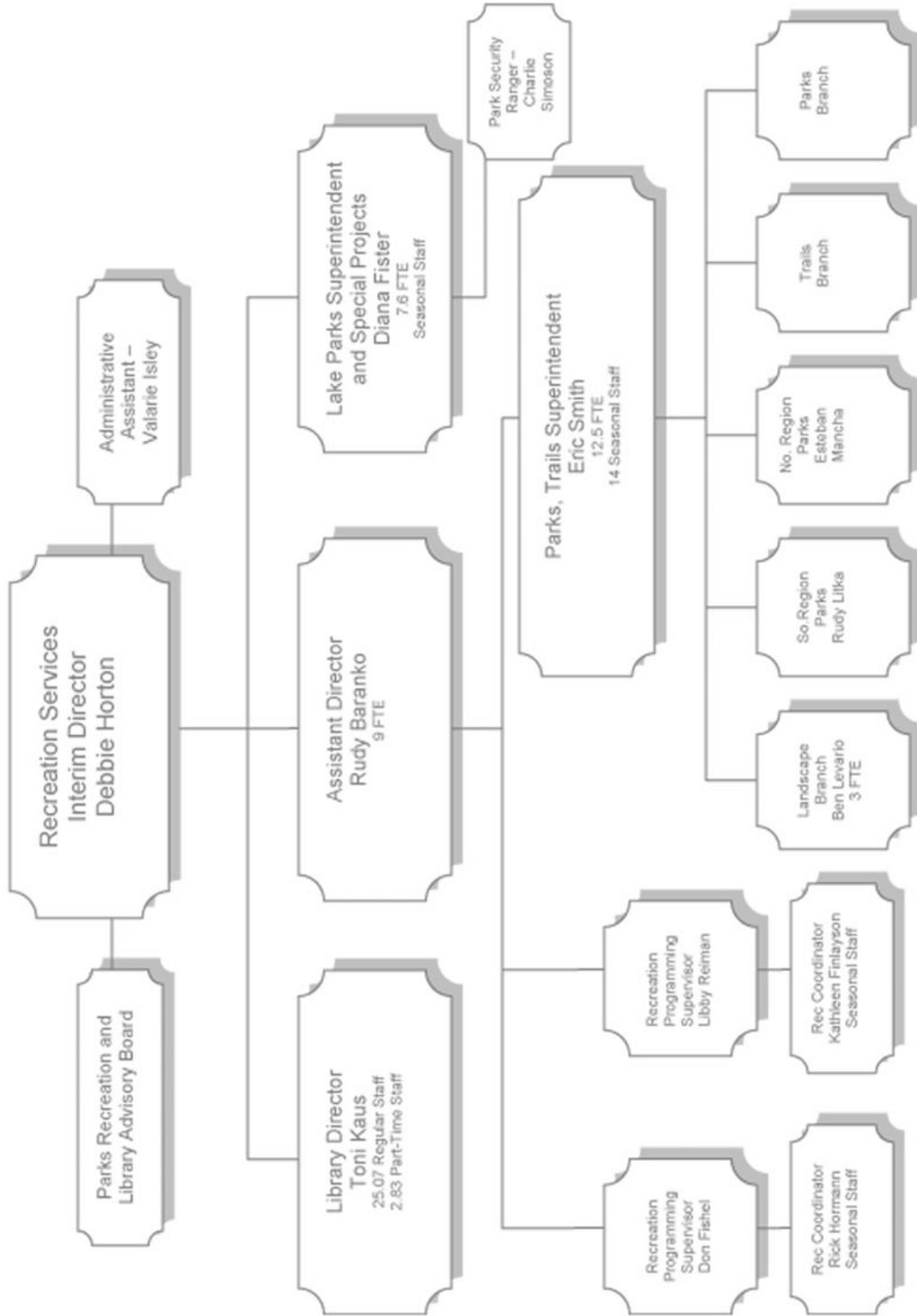
To promote Prescott's reputation as a first class tourist destination by offering great recreation and leisure amenities.



Table of Contents

Organizational Chart	4
Introduction and Recreation Services.....	5
Library Division	8
Recreation Division	11
Youth and Teen Programming.....	11
Special Needs	15
Adult Sports.....	16
Amateur Softball Association.....	17
Youth Sports.....	18
Lake Parks Division.....	18
Parks, Trails and Landscaping Division.....	21
Open Space Highlights.....	23

CITY OF PRESCOTT
Parks, Recreation and Library Department





PARKS, RECREATION AND LIBRARY DEPARTMENT 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

ADMINISTRATION AND INTRODUCTION

Vision, leadership, and park construction are the responsibility of the Recreation Services Director and the Parks, Recreation and Library Department. In 2007, the department completed the design and engineering of a new 10-acre park called the Vista Park, purchased and developed another mile for the Rails-to-Trails project, paved the Peavine Trailhead and completed the new parks master plan.

The City of Prescott's Parks and Recreation Park Master plan study was intended to address the growing needs of the community, which has doubled since the previous master plan was completed in 1987. As the costs of land acquisitions continue to escalate, it had become increasingly important for the City to identify a means for providing the recreational lands necessary to maintain the quality of life for which the City is known.

The Planning process began in September 2006 and was completed in September of 2007. The process covered a critical path beginning with a public "Kick-Off" meeting at Yavapai College Performance Hall, then a needs assessment survey, a benchmark survey, more public meetings, data gathering, and culminating with a comprehensive, City Council approved 50-page document. The master plan describes the condition of the existing parks, park buildings, soils, hillsides, citizen desires, community needs, and it is a wealth of information about our community and parks.

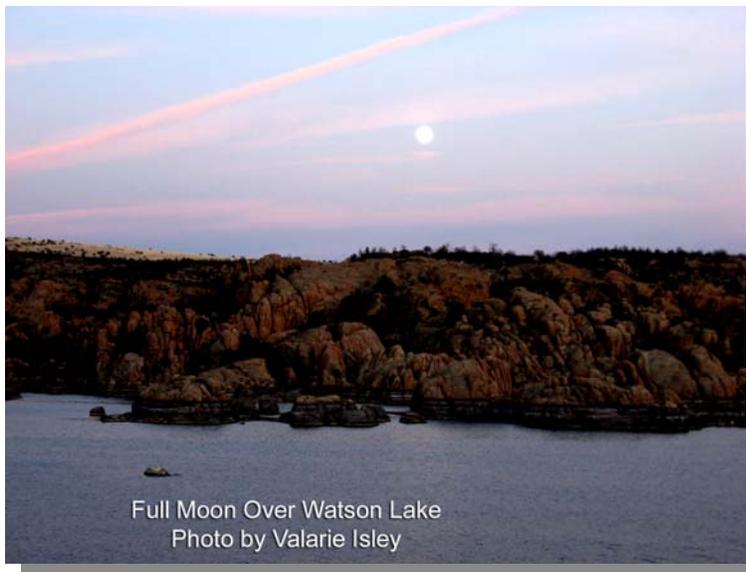
The Master Plan is a shared community vision promoting the sustainability of the region by balancing passive and active recreational opportunities and providing indoor and outdoor recreational facilities to meet the needs of its residents and visitors. The Parks and recreation system provides a wide range of neighborhood, community, and regional oriented facilities that reinforce existing relationships, build new partnerships, promote the health and safety of residents and visitors, manage limited natural resources, and provide convenient access for all users. Ultimately, the Parks Master plan demonstrated that the citizens of Prescott want the following goals and objectives:

- Goal 1:** Develop a comprehensive park and recreation system that is accessible, and provides a balance of passive and active recreational opportunities for City residents and its visitors.
- Goal 2:** Develop an integrated, connected park and recreation system that protects and conserves natural, physical, cultural and societal resources.
- Goal 3:** Develop a comprehensive recreational program that serves the needs of a diverse range of recreational activities.
- Goal 4:** Develop conservation policies to ensure conservation and best use of natural resources.

Goal 5: Develop a framework to effectively manage the City's parks and recreation system.

The Director oversees the Parks, Recreation and Library Advisory Board, the Acker Trust Board, the Michael Fann Community Skatepark Committee and the Open Space Acquisition Advisory Committee. The Acker Trust Board Committee met six times in 2007 to provide \$19,963 in funding for several Prescott children's music programs, which together serves tens of thousands of area children. In addition, they were able to provide a home for Prescott's Boys and Girls Club of Central Arizona at the old Adult Center on Aubrey.

The Open Space Acquisition Advisory Board has met twice a month for almost three years, and the hard work has resulted in several purchases and donations properties including some in Granite Dells - all for the benefit of the citizens of Prescott. Those Citizens, who have donated property, and property easements, demonstrate a deep caring for their community and nature while receiving significant tax benefits as well.



Full Moon Over Watson Lake
Photo by Valarie Isley

Granite Dells, Willow and Watson Lakes have some of the most inspirational views and open spaces in the west. These natural and developed parks provide activities too numerous to list, but include hiking, biking, kayaking, bouldering and wildlife viewing for area residents and tourists. The old Santa Fe and Peavine Railway (cir. 1893), one of the few Rails-to-Trails projects in Arizona, has visitors from all over the world coming to hike and photograph the dells. In addition, children's camps in

the spring, summer and fall explore the open spaces of these natural beauties, by foot and kayak, discovering wildlife, plants and insects, and developing a sense of competency in the natural world.

The Michael Fann Community Skatepark Committee met seven times to promote safety and recreation at Prescott's premier skatepark. June 21st was designated national "Go Skateboarding Day" and was a huge success with skaters from all over the southwest participating.

Recreation Services oversees the daily operations, staff and projects of the Parks, Recreation and Library Department. The department is responsible for numerous tournaments, leagues and special events each year, which bring millions of dollars to the local economy. Hosting sporting events offers a number of benefits to the community such as increasing community visibility, positive income, and enhancing the community's image.

The analysis for the 2007 calendar year showed an impact of \$6,767,960 on the local economy from direct expenditures by out of town camp and tournament participants and visitors. This was an increase of \$327,095 from the previous study in 2004.

In addition, the City of Prescott Parks, Recreation and Library Department provides all of this to the residents of Prescott, Prescott Valley, Chino Valley and unincorporated County areas. Each year leagues in basketball, volleyball, softball and soccer are organized for the health and entertainment of youth and adults. Classes in yoga and crafts provide entertainment and stress relief to busy adult lives, while children's camps and programs supply structure during school breaks and unique experiences for childhood development.

The Recreation Programming Division provided many fun activities in 2007. With the focus on getting citizens to be outside and active, over 26,000 Prescott and Mile High residents participated in various programs, sports leagues and recreational activities. They also implemented free family fun with *Movies in the Park* - close to 300 people attended each viewing.

With more than 573 Ramada reservations and more than 57,000 people visiting the outdoor facilities, the Parks and Lakes Divisions worked hard in 2007 to bring quality service to the lakes, open space and neighborhood parks of Prescott.

Parks and Recreation hosted or supported many City of Prescott special events such as the annual July 4 celebrations held at Pioneer Park with over 8,000 in attendance. The dependable Parks and Recreation staff gave many hours of support to events such as Christmas parade, Dickens of a Christmas, which included a first time ice skating rink in downtown Prescott, numerous adult and youth tournaments and leagues.

The Prescott Community Center, at 2180 E Rosser Street, held a weeklong grand opening ceremony in early January with local celebrities, classes and more. The nearly 21,000 square-foot Center features a 4200 sq ft auditorium complete with stage, dance floor, sound system and serving kitchen. In addition, there are meeting rooms, a technology center, a pool hall, fitness room and a crafts room. Meals on Wheels shares the building and serves more than 75,000 meals to the community's elderly and homebound.

The Parks, Recreation and Library Department is diverse and ubiquitous as staff are called upon to be the hands and backs of the City when hard work of any kind is required at any hour. The Department's staff are always ready to assist the City of Prescott government and citizens with a multitude of assignments and other duties as needed.



Prescott Public Library

Library Expansion/ Renovation Wins Main Street Award

Citing the downtown library's role as an "anchor store" for the center of Prescott, Prescott Downtown Partnership nominated the recently-completed downtown library expansion and renovation for a Main Street Award in the Public/Private Partnership category. The City received a Finalist Award for this project, with an official presentation in Council Chambers on Tuesday, September 11.

Library visits top 440,000

The downtown library and Gateway Branch welcomed over 440,000 patrons in 2007. Downtown library visits averaged 1,350 per day, with a record-breaking 1,769 folks walking in the doors on May 1.

Art at the Library

Mural panels commissioned by the City for the Prescott centennial in 1964 now hang in the stairwell of the Downtown Library. The 8 panels by artist Paul Coze tell the early history of Prescott. After twenty years at City Hall, the mural spent 20 years on indefinite loan to the Phippen Museum. In 2006 Phippen staff asked library staff to consider hanging the mural panels in a location where they would be enjoyed by children and adults, residents and visitors.

The 4th Annual Jazz in the Stacks raised \$3000 over expenses. These monies will go towards funding outdoor art projects at the Downtown Library. Jazz in the Stacks guests were among the first to view the latest art installation at the library, 2 life-size ravens building a nest over the Goodwin Street entrance. "Partners" is yet another gift to Prescott Public Library from talented local artist Bill Neely. Bill also carved the quail on the donor wall and refurbished the library's stunning kachina collection, now on permanent display on the Main Level of the Downtown Library.

In late July, thanks to underwriting from the Louis C. Lerner Foundation, the library hung a 4-piece work by local artist Susan Popko. The striking series of sculpted sand paintings is titled "Corn Story."

In early August, Mrs. Dezie Lerner proposed to commission Jesse Homoki to create and install a bronze mountain lion outside the library. A mock-up of the project was reviewed by the Friends Board and the City Manager, and full funding (\$14, 390) from the Louis C. Lerner Foundation has been received by the Friends of the Prescott Public Library.

The addition of 2 major donations made August a banner month for art: Seymour Petrovsky donated a Dan Hill bronze of a young girl with her nose in a book. The life-size bronze titled

"Booked for the Day" has been installed in the Reading Courtyard to rave reviews. Jeri Smith-Fornara then contributed \$10,000 to the Friends of the Library and will become the major underwriter of the library mural project.

Café Libre Opens

Cafe Libré, the library coffee and refreshment bar, opened for business mid-March. Open Monday through Saturday, the café offers coffee and espresso drinks, tea, juice, and a variety of snacks. From morning newspaper readers to kids coming in after-school, this is an increasingly popular destination.

Film and Music Programs Launched

The "Just for Grownups" International Film Series, launched in February, features award-winning, first-run international films on the first Tuesday of each month, attracting an average of 75 movie fans to each performance. Third Friday Chamber Music concerts bring 100 music lovers together each month to enjoy a free concert by local musicians.

Youth Services

Youth Services staff partnered with the PTA at Taylor Hicks Elementary School to be sure all 500 kindergarten through 5th grade students had a Prescott Public Library card. The new library is a popular destination for school groups, as well as for parents and kids. Class visits bring over 700 children per month to the library for stories, tours and library cards.

447 kids registered for the summer reading program, "Get a Clue" @ Prescott Public Library. The summer of activities opened with a magic show with Jolly Roger (straight from Hogwarts in England), attracting an audience of over 100. Kids who read (or are read to) at least 15 minutes a day received fun incentives and a chance to win the grand prize at the end of the program. Twenty-eight free special events in June and July, including family movies on the lawn, the Mad Scientists, and Mysterious Crafts, attracted over 3,200 people.

New Online Services

This year the library launched three new online services, available to anyone with a Prescott Public Library card:

OverDrive Downloadable Books allows library patrons to download audio books without the possibility of losing them or having to pay overdue fines. A library card and a few minutes on the internet are all users need to enjoy top titles, perennial favorites and classics. Traveling library patrons have downloaded books in Taiwan and Thailand.

MyLibraryDV allows patrons to watch video content from their home computer. Programs available include: *Antiques Roadshow*, *Rick Steves' Europe* travel series, and classic movies such as *Angel and the Badman*, *Meet John Doe*, *The Little Princess* and *Phantom of the Opera*.

Small Engine Repair Reference Center includes complete maintenance and repair instructions for hundreds of small engine machines including motorcycles, ATVs, personal water craft, lawn mowers, tractors, generators and more.

Drive-by Book Drop Saves Wear and Tear on Library Materials and Staff

Returning materials to the downtown library has become easier and faster via the new vertical book drop, the first in Arizona, located in the alley on the south side of the building. A sensor opens the return slot as you reach toward it, and your books, movies and audio books are gently rolled through the dual conveyor belt system directly into the library's check in room. In

addition to saving wear and tear on materials, this new device saves wear and tear on library staff. Items drop from the conveyor into a “smart” book bin to be quickly checked in with no extra handling. Sensors in the bin lift or lower the load as needed, and can even turn off the drop if it is completely full.

Library Volunteers Donate 15,000 Hours

115 active library volunteers donated 15,000 hours of services in 2007, an average of 3,600 hours per month. Volunteers shelve books, check in materials, teach computer classes, answer the telephone, deliver books to homebound patrons and participate in many other activities and projects.

PRESCOTT GATEWAY BRANCH LIBRARY

Passport Saturday, February 17 at Prescott Gateway Branch Library was a big success. Citizens appreciated the opportunity to apply for a passport on a Saturday and without an appointment, and library staff processed 34 passport applications. A front-page follow-up story in the February 19th Daily Courier made even more folks aware of the library’s passport service. Library staff at Prescott Gateway Branch had processed 782 passport applications by year end. As \$30 of the \$97 cost of a new passport goes to the City, passport application services added more than \$23,400 to the General Fund.

Prescott Gateway Branch Family Story time with the popular Mr. Steve will begin in February, and continue every Monday at 10 a.m. Families will enjoy stories, songs and activities for kids 2-5, their siblings and caretakers.

PRESCOTT COMMUNITY CENTER BRANCH

The Prescott Public Library micro-branch at the new Prescott Community Center is open, featuring magazines, newspapers, and four library computers with Internet access, a printer and a drive-by book drop. An automated outside book pick-up unit, the first in Yavapai County, offers 24/7 pick-up services for patrons. Pickups of reserved items at Prescott Community Center are up 40% since the late August launch of 24/7 book lockers.

Community Center visitors also have a “hot” line to the library. Pick up the receiver on the new red phone and a helpful voice answers, “Prescott Public Library. How may I direct your call?”

YAVAPAI LIBRARY NETWORK

The Highlands Center for Natural History will join the Yavapai Library Network family as a “Special Collection,” meaning their 500 volumes will appear in the network’s shared online catalog and will be available for use by students, teachers and researchers. Special Collections already in the catalog include the Yavapai County Law Library, the Ecosa Institute, the Phippen Art Museum, the Smoki Museum, the VA Medical Center Library and the Yavapai Chapter of the Arizona Archaeological Society. The Network now includes 44 libraries offering over one million items.



Recreation Division

2007 was filled with recreation, enthusiasm, and enjoyment. Staff continued to meet community needs by offering a variety of programming opportunities for area youth and teenagers. Programs included Teen and Youth Intersession (School Break) Programs, Tiny Tot Olympics, Teen Night Out, Youth Special Event Nights, Adventure Day and Weekend Trips, as well as camping and fishing.

Full time staff successfully completed City of Prescott Leadership 101 Training and Supervisory Academy. Staff also provided classes in CPR and First Aid certification to all recreation seasonal and temporary employees. Staff trained seasonal and temporary employees at a variety of sites where youth day camps would take place. This training allowed employees the opportunity to explore, troubleshoot, and problem solve together on potential issues and hazards at these sites prior to participant programs. Staff received additional training in outdoor activities such as kayaking, archery, hiking, climbing, age appropriate activities, water activities, and nature crafts to name just a few. Emphasis on seasonal employee training is responsible for a 70% decrease in accidents and incidents with youth and teen programs over the past 2 years

YOUTH PROGRAMS

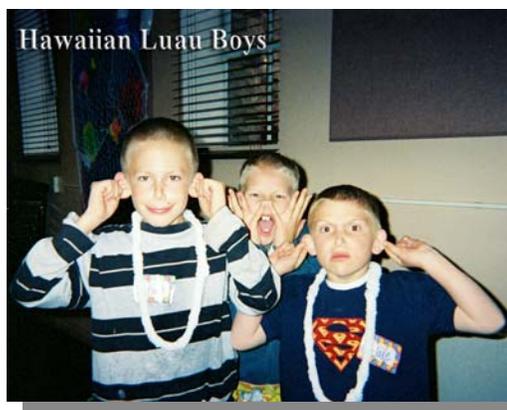
School Break (Intersession) Programming

The recreation division provides programming for youth (aged 6 to 11) and teenagers during Prescott Unified School District (PUSD) school intersessions. Participants visited area lakes and parks each day within the Quad-City Area, as well as field trips around Northern Arizona and the Phoenix area. Program variety during intersessions provides safe, affordable alternatives to potential boredom by participants who may otherwise be home alone.

Youth programs were offered Monday through Friday (except holidays) 9:00am-3:00pm during the winter, spring, summer and fall school intersessions. To accommodate parents/caregivers busy schedules, the recreation division offered extended care options from 7:30am-5:30pm. Regular programming was \$12.00 per day (an increase of \$2.00), and extended care was \$6.00 per day (an increase of \$2.00). Regular and extended care options allowed parents/caregivers to continue their regular work schedule with as little disruption as possible, with the knowledge that their children were attending a well supervised and soundly structured program.

For the third year in a row, during the summer session, staff was able to increase the total number of potential participants to enroll in programs by increasing the number of available sessions from 7 to 8. Previously, 7 sessions accommodated up to 455 children which was an increase of 53% over the previous year. This year staff offered 8 sessions, with the potential of registering up to 520 children, an attendance increase of over 15% in 2006 and a 68% increase from 2005 statistics.

Staff continued to make every effort to expand participant experiences in each day camp type program, such as themed week activities, arts and crafts, age appropriate group contest, hiking, kayaking, archery, skits, swimming, cooking classes and end of session BBQ's. Day campers took trips to the Jerome Gold King Mining Museum, Red Rock Crossing in Sedona, Phoenix Wildlife World Zoo, Pioneer Living History Museum, Sharlot Hall Museum, and Freedom Station and were treated to a lesson on how to pitch horseshoes from Mr. Cal Cordes and the Mile Hi Horseshoe Club.

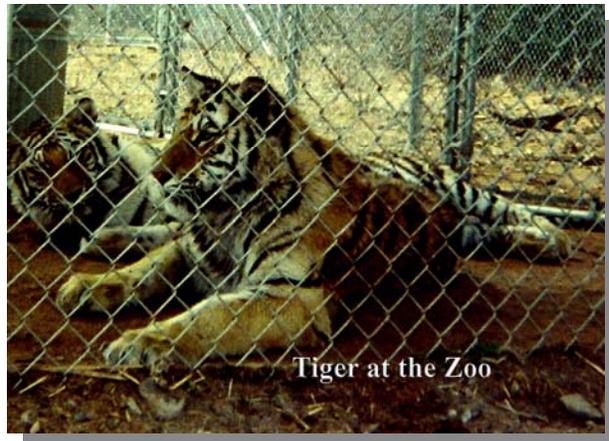
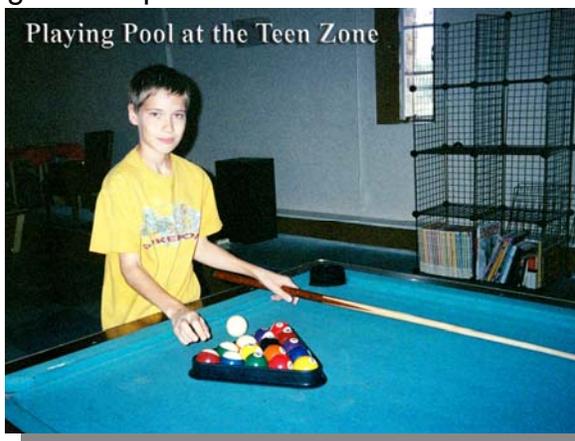


Youth Special Programs

Staff coordinated and implemented a variety of special programs and events for children ages 6 to 11. These programs gave children an opportunity to be involved in a themed activity, while allowing parents a few hours out with friends. These themed programs also allow staff to be imaginative and creative in areas where children may have interests. Programs were held on selected Friday evenings starting at 5:30pm at the Grace Sparkes Activity Center. Participants were provided dinner in the theme of the party, and participated in themed games and activities. Children got into the spirit by dressing up and playing the part. Parents were welcomed to stay and watch and/or participate. Themed youth programs for 2007 included a Valentines Day Party, Western Round-Up Party, Pirates of the Caribbean are Back in Prescott Party, and a Hawaiian Luau Party.

Teen Zone After-School & Special Programming

While the downtown Library was adding on to their existing building, Teen Zone programming went on hiatus so the library could continue its youth programs at the Grace Sparkes Activity Center in the Teen Zone. After a long intermission, the Teen Zone resumed its after school program in April.



An average of 10 to 20 area teens, aged 12-17, hung out in the Zone during the school year to get out of the house and to participate in gym activities, board games, billiards, foosball, and other indoor activities, as well as have the opportunity to participate in special programs, such

as attending the Arizona Sundogs opening night game in Prescott Valley. The Zone is open after school Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 3:00pm-6:00pm and Wednesday, and Friday 1:00pm-6:00pm. Zone staff also helped participants with their homework, gave cooking classes, and supplied arts and crafts. Participation varied from day to day.

Prescott Mile High Middle School Lunch Time Activities Program

Beginning in April, to help build interest in Teen Zone programs, staff coordinated activities at Prescott Mile High Middle School every Tuesday and Thursday during students' lunch periods. The recreation division assisted Prescott Mile High Middle School by offering active games and activities during the schools' lunch time recess. The purpose of the program is to offer children a lively and energetic activity choice during their free time.

Teen Summer Intersession Programming

This summer proved to be very fun and entertaining for the Prescott Teen population. The Recreation Division created a calendar of events focused on getting teens out of the house and participating in some physical activity. Each morning at 10:00am, 12 to 39 teens would meet at the activity center. From there they traveled by City van to one of the area lakes, parks, Prescott downtown area, or out of town on a field trip. Activities included kayaking, fishing, hiking, tubing, making arts and crafts, and more. Activity schedules were designed with flexibility in mind, to allow participants the freedom to explore their own interests.

In a co-sponsored effort, Recreation Division and Prescott High School opened the girls' gymnasium at Prescott High School to all area youth and teens all summer long. Kids came out and played basketball, volleyball, badminton, dodgeball, and more.

Teenagers were also offered the opportunity to participate in weekend adventure trips with Teen Zone staff. Staff offered 8 weekend trips, some day trips and some overnight camping trips. The overnight trips included camping and fishing in Williams, camping in Sedona, and camping in Sycamore Canyon. Day trips included going to Phoenix to watch an Arizona Diamondbacks game, participating in a high ropes course, tubing and barbeques.

On 12 selected Friday evenings, teenagers 11-17 years of age met at the Teen Zone to enjoy a night out with friends. The evenings consisted of having dinner out at a local restaurant and then attending a movie at a local theater. Cost was \$15 per person.

Tribal Agreement and Use of Zone

The Recreation Division also partnered with the Yavapai Prescott Indian Tribe for utilization of the Teen Zone and gym, on a bimonthly basis, on Wednesday evenings for their teen population. They participated in gym activities and games, billiards, foosball, and other indoor activities.

Tiny Tot Olympics

This year marked the 4th Annual Tiny Tot Olympics, which was held once again at Granite Creek Park on Saturday, August 25, 2007. There were 64 Tiny Tot Olympians ranging in age from 2 to 4 years old. Events this year consisted of the Football Throw, Soccer Ball Kick, Long Jump, High Jump, Basketball Hoop Shoot, Baseball Pitch and Running (40 feet for 2 yr olds, 60 feet for 3 yr olds and 80 feet for 4 yr olds).



As each child registered they received a bag of goodies that included a commemorative t-shirt, participation ribbon, water bottle, snack bag and a small Gatorade to help keep the children from getting cranky or bored. Staff also brought toys for them to play with in the sand volleyball area. The Prescott Police Department's DARE truck handed out fingerprint kits, and the Prescott Fire Department's crew gave Fire Truck tours to the children. Staff made buttons with a picture of each Olympian for parents to wear and keep as a memento from the day.

Diaper Derby

This year marked the 2nd Annual Diaper Derby, which was held at Granite Creek Park on Saturday, August 25, 2007, in conjunction with the Tiny Tot Olympics. The Diaper Derby had 15 participants ranging in age from infant to just under 2 years old. Children participated in crawling and walking events with everyone being a winner. Parents received a button with their child's picture and their child received a commemorative infant t-shirt, water bottle, and a small snack item.

Hershey Track Meet

Created in 1975, the Hershey's Track and Field Games is the largest youth sports program of its kind in the United States and Canada. The goal of the Hershey's Track and Field Games is to introduce children to physical fitness through basic events like running, jumping and throwing. The program also strives to encourage children to reach their potential and develop a sense of accomplishment.

This year the meet was held at Prescott High School Track on Saturday, April 28, 2007 where 39 boys and girls from the Tri-City area participated in the 50, 100, 200, 400, 800, and 1600 meter dash runs, a 4 x 100 relay, standing long jump and softball throw. First place finishers in each event went on to take part in the state meet in Phoenix.



Halloween Carnival

The Recreation Division held its annual Halloween Carnival on October 31st, at the Grace Sparkes Memorial Activity Center with approximately 300 in attendance. This year the Division hired Freedom Station to come and run 8 booths and bouncy castles.

Mayors Youth Advisory Council (Myac)

MYAC is a volunteer group comprised of 7 students from Prescott High School, Northpoint Academy, Prescott Valley High School and Mile High Middle School. This year the kids volunteered to assist with several events

and programs around the City. These included the Whiskey Row Marathon, the City of Prescott 4th of July Celebration, Habitat for Humanity, Special Needs programs, and Senior Olympics.

MYAC students have also been working with State Farm Agent Tracy Murr to develop a safe driving incentive program for high school students. In its first year, the program had 19 students enroll. Each student enrolled received a prize for each school quarter they did not get into an accident or receive a ticket or citation. At the end of the school year all qualifiers get put into a drawing for a \$300 Visa card!



SPECIAL NEEDS

Special needs events provide positive, fun social interaction for adults over 18. These events are the main social experience for many of the participants. In addition to social skills, fine motor skills, gross motor skills and number recognition are practiced in many of the featured activities.



Social Night Out

On various nights throughout the year, Special Needs clients were entertained with social nights out. These nights provided participants with fun activities outside of their homes while interacting with the public. Whether it was dinner and a movie or an evening of music at the Courthouse Plaza, participants were able to improve their conversational skills as well as social interaction. In May, the Special Needs group was treated to a May Day celebration at Goldwater Lake that consisted of dancing around the May Pole.

Dances

There are 10 dances per year that are themed to coincide with the season, special events, and holidays. Some of the themes this year were Elvis' Birthday Bash, Super bowl, Hawaiian Luau, Halloween and several others. The Special Needs group has one special dinner dance planned each year. 2007 marked the 15th Annual Christmas Dinner and Dance. Civitan provided the turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, and potluck dishes completed the meal. Santa Claus gave gifts to all the participants. Revenue generated from these dances equals about \$1500 annually. Most dances were held at the Grace Sparkes Activity Center, except the Luau which took place at Heritage Park.

Craft Nights

There were 12 craft nights held in 2007, where 15 to 30 crafters attended and created 2-4 crafts each night, while honing their fine motor skills, recognizing patterns, following instructions, and having great fun with their pals. A special craft night was held in November, with participants making fleece blankets for the Crisis Pregnancy Center. Once completed, the participants presented the blankets to the clients of the Crisis Center. The fee is \$2 per person and generates about \$480 annually.

Bingo Night

Once a month, the Recreation Division hosted a night of bingo for the Special Needs community. On average, 25 attendees participated, each by paying \$1.00 and generating \$275 annually while learning number recognition, fair play and focus. Participants were treated to drinks, snacks and wonderful prizes.

SENIOR OLYMPICS

This year Prescott played host to over 1000 athletes, 50 to 96 years of age. Approximately half of the participants reside in the Tri-City area, while the other half came from as far away as Ohio to participate in our Senior Olympic Games. The revenue generated for the Division through sponsorships, donations and registration fees this year exceeded \$33,000. Additionally, Senior Olympic teams (about half of the participants) spent over \$375,000 in Prescott over a two week period.

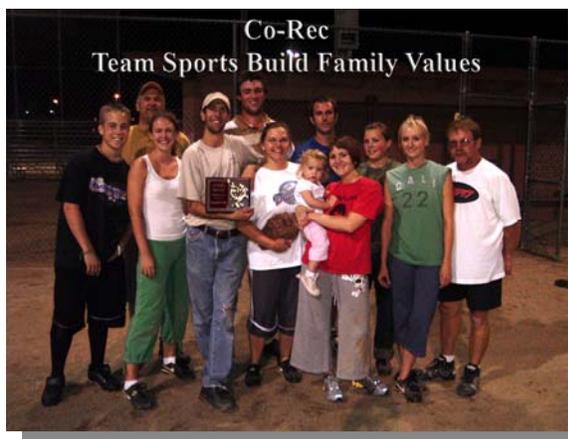
The Recreation Programming Division partnered with several venues in the Prescott Area such as YMCA, Downtown Fitness, Prescott Racquet Club, PUSD, Mile High Horseshoes, Plaza Bowl, The Sportsmen's Club, Prescott Trap and Skeet, Las Fuentes, Prescott Community Center, Frontier Billiards and Frontier Days Rodeo – with the farthest away being the Mile High Archery range in Humboldt. Senior Olympians participated in over 30 events from team events such as; softball, volleyball and basketball, to individual events such as; mountain biking, running, tennis, badminton, bocce, scrabble and many more.

SUMMER PLAZA ACTIVITIES

June 1st through August 31st the City of Prescott held 59 events at the Courthouse Plaza. There were 25 concerts and 34 dance performances. The free entertainment consisted of Jazz bands, Folk Dancers, Square Dancers, Western Dancers, Cloggers, a variety of musical groups, and the Central Arizona Concert Band which drew crowds of approximately 750 – 1000.

TREKABOUT

In its 9th year as a partnership with the Yavapai County Community Health Services and the YMCA, the Trekabout Hiking Club was in full swing in 2007. There were 97 members in hiking club ranging in age from 46 to 87. Members were offered approximately 8 guided hikes a month. The number of hikers per day ranged from 12-40+. The Trekabout Hiking Club is a way for people to get out and be physical, while providing a great environment for people to meet others with similar interests.



Sports

The Prescott Sports Division enjoyed another successful year, programming adult sporting leagues, tournaments, and special events. The Division also partnered with various youth sports organizations, such as Prescott Little League Baseball, Prescott Girl's Fast-Pitch Softball Association, AYSO Soccer, Yavapai Prescott Indian Tribe, Prescott YMCA and Prescott Youth Football, providing facilities and assisting in their overall league administration.

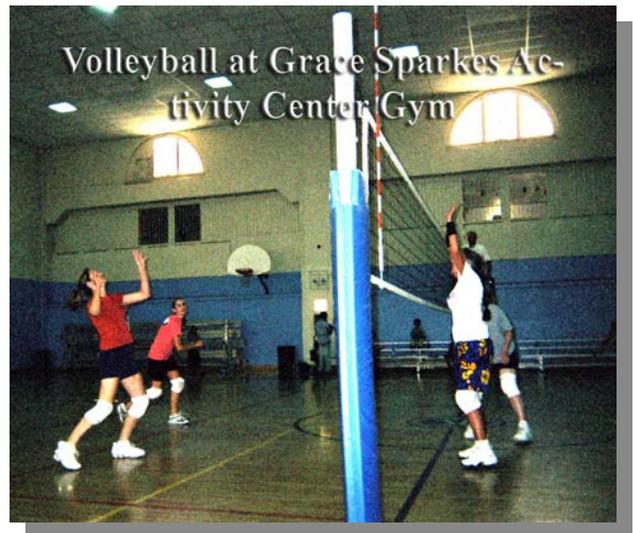
The Sports Division worked very closely with the Parks Maintenance Division, facilitating and maintaining various ball fields throughout the City. City-sponsored and Co-sponsored activities, along with Youth Co-sponsored and Private Party field reservations resulted in the grassed venues being utilized at near full capacity.

Adult Sports

Once again the Sports Division sponsored and conducted several adult leagues. These adult leagues consisted of basketball, volleyball, flag football, soccer, and softball. The adult leagues were held throughout the year at various locations such as the YMCA, Yavapai College, Grace Sparkes Activity center and several softball fields in Prescott.

Basketball leagues were held during the winter and summer months. The winter league consisted of 61 teams participating, including a women's division, comprised of 16 individuals. The summer league consisted of 21 teams with nearly 700 individuals participating in both sessions.

The Division also had 2 volleyball sessions, one in the spring and one in the fall. During the spring league, 14 women's, 8 coed-recreation, and 6 men's teams competed. Fall was the primary season for adult volleyball with 59 teams: 24 women's, 19 coed-recreation, and 16 men's teams participating. Combined together there were approximately 580 participants in the volleyball leagues.



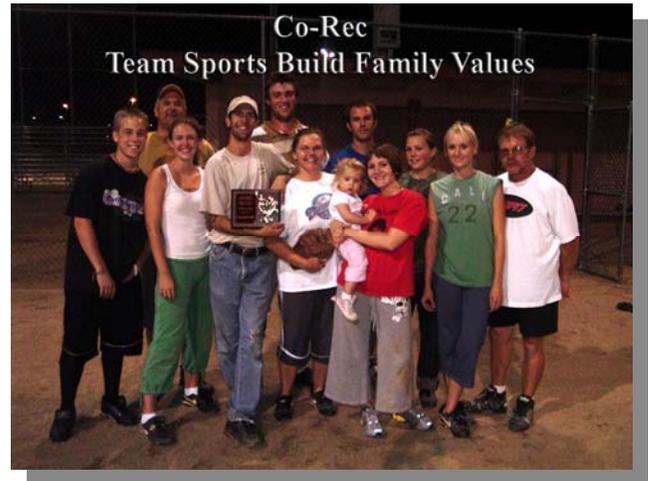
The fall also brought about the adult flag football and soccer leagues. These leagues were conducted at Heritage and Pioneer parks. The flag football league consisted of 8 teams and approximately 70 participants. The soccer league, in its 3rd year, had 10 teams competing, which brought the participant count to approximately 120. Soccer continues to be the largest spectator sport.

Summer brought the City's most popular sport, softball, to the forefront. There were 75 coed-recreation slow-pitch, 70 men's slow-pitch, 9 women's slow-pitch, 8 men's senior slow-pitch, and 9 men's fast-pitch teams participating in league play. In addition, a women's fast-pitch league was organized, where over 25 ladies met weekly to play fast-pitch softball. Nearly 2,575 individuals were included on team rosters.

Amateur Softball Association (ASA)

The Prescott Sports Division and the Amateur Softball Association continued their long-running partnership by appointing City of Prescott Sports Supervisor, Don Fishel, as the Arizona ASA State Commissioner by the ASA National Board of Directors. Through this partnership the Division was able to sponsor or co-sponsor many ASA sanctioned softball tournaments. Highlighting 2007 were the Men's Class C Fast-Pitch State Championships, the Girl's "Best of the West" Fast-Pitch Championships, the Girl's 18 and Under Regional Championships, and the Women's Fast-Pitch National Championships. It was during this that the tournament committee once again received the "Award of Excellence" from the Amateur Softball Association's (ASA) National Office, for conducting one of the highest rated National Championship tournaments.

A funding partnership between the Arizona Softball Foundation, Arizona ASA, and the City of Prescott resulted in a new security system being installed inside the Arizona Softball Hall of Fame. The museum, which is located inside the Grace Sparkes Activity Center, houses memorabilia from several decades, such as uniforms, pictures, newspaper clippings and plaques. The new security system allows for patrons to conduct “self-tours” while monitoring for vandalism and theft.



Youth Sports

The Sports Division successfully co-sponsored and assisted various youth sport organizations, such as Prescott Youth Football, Prescott Little League Baseball, Prescott Girl’s Softball Association, AYSO Soccer and Youth Tennis throughout the year.

In July, Prescott played host to the 2007 Arizona State 11-12 year old Little League All-Star Tournament. The tournament consisted of 14 teams from all over Arizona. District 10 representatives from Prescott and surrounding communities, along with staff from parks maintenance and recreation programming helped in organizing and administering the tournament. The annual AYSO Mile High Youth Soccer Classic was also held in Prescott and attracted 104 team entries. This tournament generates over \$1,000,000 yearly for the area.

The Sports Division partnered with the Yavapai Prescott Indian Tribe to host the Pai Pride Youth Basketball Tournament. The event was held at the Grace Sparkes Activity Center and attracted 18 team entries

Through the United States Tennis Association (USTA), the Division obtained a \$500.00 grant to institute a new youth tennis program, called the 30-60 project. This program is targeted for the young novice tennis enthusiast, utilizing a miniature size court and softer ball. The Sports Division also assisted with a Tri- City youth tennis tournament, which attracted over 60 youth players between the ages of 8-16.

New Policies & Procedures

A new championship certificate program was established for our adult sports leagues. In cooperation with local businesses, championship teams are now given certificates to utilize instead of receiving T-shirts. This new program benefits local businesses and allows teams to choose how they want to celebrate their championship.

Lakes Division

Goldwater Lake

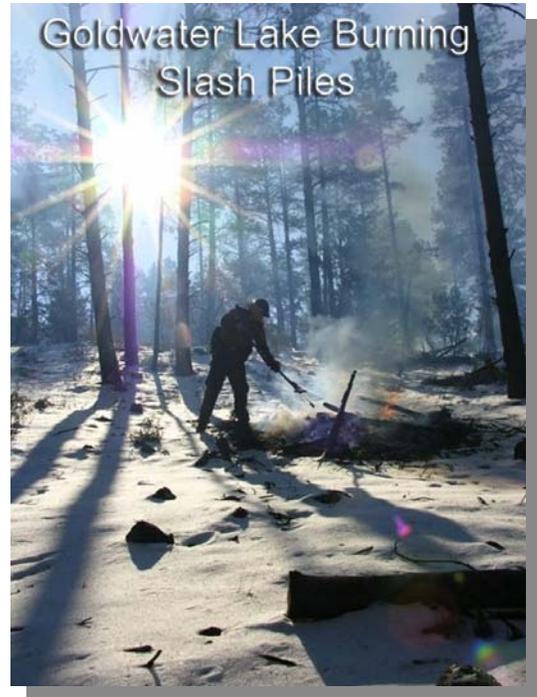
Located 4 miles south of Prescott on Senator Highway, Goldwater Lake is surrounded by tall pines in the Prescott National Forest. Goldwater Lake Park is over 40 acres in size. When full, Goldwater Lake is 15 surface acres in size. The United States Forest Service will use helicopters to collect water from Goldwater Lake for fighting fires as seen in the photo below.

Restoration of forest health continues to be a primary focus at Goldwater Lake Park. Utilizing partnerships with Prescott Area Wildland Urban Interface Committee, Arizona Department of

Corrections work crews, Prescott National Forest, Groom Creek Fire Department, Arizona Public Service arborists, and our own Prescott Fire Department Wildland Crew, approximately 10 acres at the entrance to Goldwater Lake Park have been thinned, cleared and restored to health. The waters of the lake are visible through the forest from the entry road. Grasses and wildflowers are once again growing on the forest floor, which attracts deer and other wildlife to the park. Through effective collaboration with other agencies, this restoration project has been accomplished at minimal cost.



Fighting Fires in the Walker Area



Watson Lake

Located 4 miles north of downtown Prescott on Highway 89, Watson Lake covers over 345 surface acres at capacity. Watson Lake allows boating of all kinds, including gas-powered motors. The lake is restricted to “no-wake speed,” which is generally defined as 5 miles per hour or less. The weather station at Watson Lake Park recorded 8.52 inches of precipitation in 2007. As a result, Watson Lake is 1 foot below spillway level.

In addition to numerous weddings, company picnics, memorial services, and family parties, Watson Lake Park was the site for several large events, such as the Prescott Highland Games. This was the third annual Scottish cultural celebration, attended by 3,000 participants and spectators. The organizing committee is considering extending this to a 2-day event in coming years. The Antique Auto Club Show in August of each year also draws large crowds. This year’s 2-day event was attended by an estimated 10,000 people, admiring the look of chrome and the roar of horsepower.

There were 7 nationally sanctioned horseshoe tournaments held at Watson Lake in 2007. The Mile-Hi Horseshoe Club is pleased with the newly-completed state-of-the-art facility. League play is held on Thursday evenings during fair weather for players of all skill levels.

Watson Lake Park was host to 7 “Star Parties” in 2007, presented by the Prescott Astronomy Club. Patio heaters and complimentary hot cocoa contribute to the festive atmosphere of sky exploration on Saturday evenings throughout the year. New in May of 2007 was a weekend campout, which attracted a couple hundred “happy campers,” including elementary school students, family groups, home-schooled students, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts. The scouts had an opportunity to earn badges in astronomy with materials presented by club members and professional astronomers from all over Arizona. The educational resources

available in an outdoor setting take many forms, and stargazing has found a home at Watson Lake.

Willow Lake

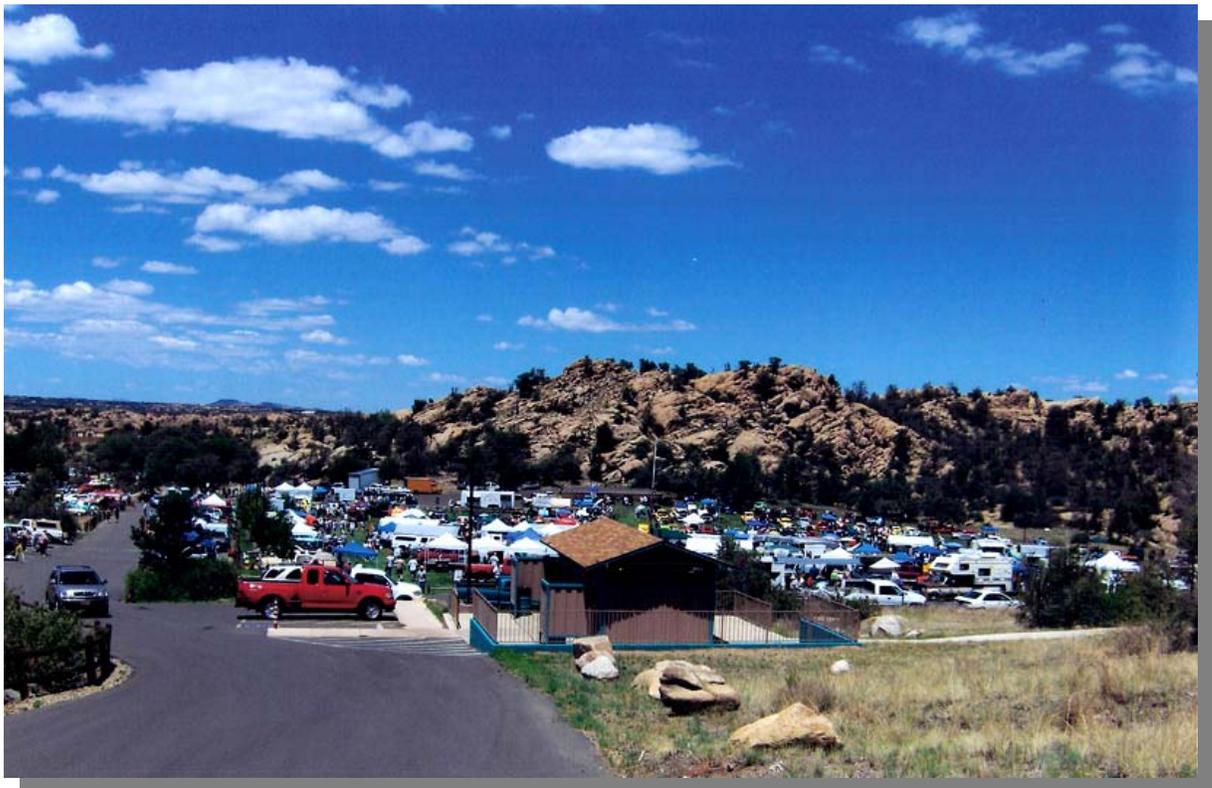
Accessible via Heritage Park Road, Willow Lake holds over 235 surface acres when full. Paddle craft, sail boats and electric motors are permitted at Willow Lake. The large surface area of water at this location attracts thousands of migrating waterfowl each year, earning a designation as an Audubon Important Bird Area for Willow Lake. At the end of 2007, Willow Lake was 10.5 feet below spillway level.

Willow Lake also houses an educational resource in the Willow Lake Interpretive Site, which is open to the public for a self-guided tour every day of the year. This cultural resource center was awarded the “2007 Governor’s Heritage Preservation Honor Award” at the State Historic Preservation Conference this year.

Revenue

Goldwater Lake parking fee revenue in 2007 increased to \$36,072 a 40% increase over revenue collected in 2006. The self-pay station at the park entrance has proven to be an asset to park operations. In addition to fee collection, the entrance station is the perfect place to post notices concerning fire restrictions, fishing reports, fish stocking schedules, trail maps and other information to enhance the experience of visitors to Goldwater Lake Park.

In spite of low water levels, both Watson and Willow lake parks continue to show increases in visitation. Parking fees collected at Watson Lake totaled \$26,540 in 2007, an increase of 27% over 2006. Willow Lake collections reached a total of \$3,032 in 2007, compared to \$3,168 the previous year. In addition, 154 frequent park visitors have purchased Annual Parking Passes in 2007, allowing unlimited access to all three lake parks for a cost of \$40 per year.





Parks, Trails, Landscaping Maintenance and Open Space Division

The Parks, Trails, Landscaping Maintenance and Open Space Division continued to work with many diverse groups to accomplish special projects for the citizens of Prescott. These groups included Yavapai County, local Boy/Cub Scout troops, staff from other City of Prescott departments, and volunteers. The Division also worked hard to complete new parks and various upgrades to ensure safety at all of Prescott's city parks. This included landscaping upgrades at the Prescott Community Center and downtown planters and the completion of the 10-acre Vista Park with associated trail system within the Prescott Lakes master planned community.

In 2007, staff assisted with several Eagle (Boy) Scout Projects that included a trail bridge over Butte Creek, a re-vegetation project near Heritage Park Zoo, and a pond/dam restoration at the Boyle/DeBusk Open Space Preserve. Staff also accommodated many other groups seeking community service projects during the summer months (i.e., church groups, YMCA, etc.).

Parks

In 2007, Prescott parks hosted over 30 multi-sport tournaments, 5 sports camps and several sports leagues, which was a 30% increase from 2006. Partnerships with Prescott Little League, Prescott Girl's Softball Association, Yavapai Community College, Arizona Softball Foundation, Arizona ASA, and the Jimmy Kretzman Foundation resulted in several facility improvements.



**Ballfield Ready for Tournament
Pioneer Park**



Bandwagon Setup for 4th of July

Through these partnerships, Parks maintenance staff was able to ensure that all fields were upgraded to the highest standard. These upgrades included new scoreboards at Kuebler and Ken Lindley fields, approximately 300 tons of new stabilizer red top soil being put on Ken Lindley, both Bill Vallely ball fields and on the 4-ball fields out at Heritage Park. The new dirt made it easier for water to be drained off of the field, which was imperative for tournaments played during "monsoon" season. Staff completed a "skinning" of the Bill Vallely Upper Field

infield so that the field could be utilized by both softball and baseball teams. Park staff continued to improve the sports complexes by adding numerous other amenities such as new drinking fountains, safety handrails, dugout and spectator shades, and new infield watering systems.

The Division completed playground upgrades City-wide in 2007. These upgrades were completed to ensure that park facilities met a higher safety standard than in years past. One upgrade was a complete renovation of the Willow Creek park playground which was closed from mid-October to the beginning of December.

Special Events



The Maintenance Division played a key role in facilitating several special events and activities in 2007. Bandshell rentals brought in over \$8,000.00 in revenue for the City with 15 rental reservations. The Division, along with the City's Special Events Department hosted several special events in 2007. The annual 4th of July celebration at Pioneer Park was held with record attendance of 10,000+ people. The Division provided much manpower and set-up for the City's Dickens of a Holiday event which provided 3 days of family fun and ice-skating.

Trails

The Division continued to work with a dedicated citizens' committee on further expansion of the City's Downtown Greenways Multi-Use Trail System. This involved securing access on private property in order to utilize the \$500K grant.



A view of Granite Mountain from the most recent addition to the Peavine Trail added in October 2007.

The Division completed the expansion, paving and installation of proper drainage to the Sun Dog Trailhead for the Prescott Peavine National Recreation Trail. Major portions of the 44-mile Prescott Circle Trail through Watson Lake Park, and near Goldwater Lake Park were completed. The Division purchased and opened a northbound addition to the Prescott Peavine National Recreation Trail. This essential Rails-to-Trails purchase from a Utah property owner allowed the City to close out its second federal transportation enhancement grant.

The Division hired a permanent full-time Trails Specialist to oversee the many labor sources engaged in trail construction and maintenance of Prescott's Mile-High Trail System. In doing so, the Division was able to complete upgrades citywide to the Trail System which included new trails with associated signs and benches.

OPEN SPACE

Community Nature Center Open Space Preserve

After the successful purchase from Prescott Unified School District, Parks staff immediately began work renovating the log cabin into a visitor center, upgrading the trail system, building educational kiosks, trailside exhibits, installed a weather station, and presentation area on the 18-acre preserve. To compliment this effort, staff



hosted
325
teens

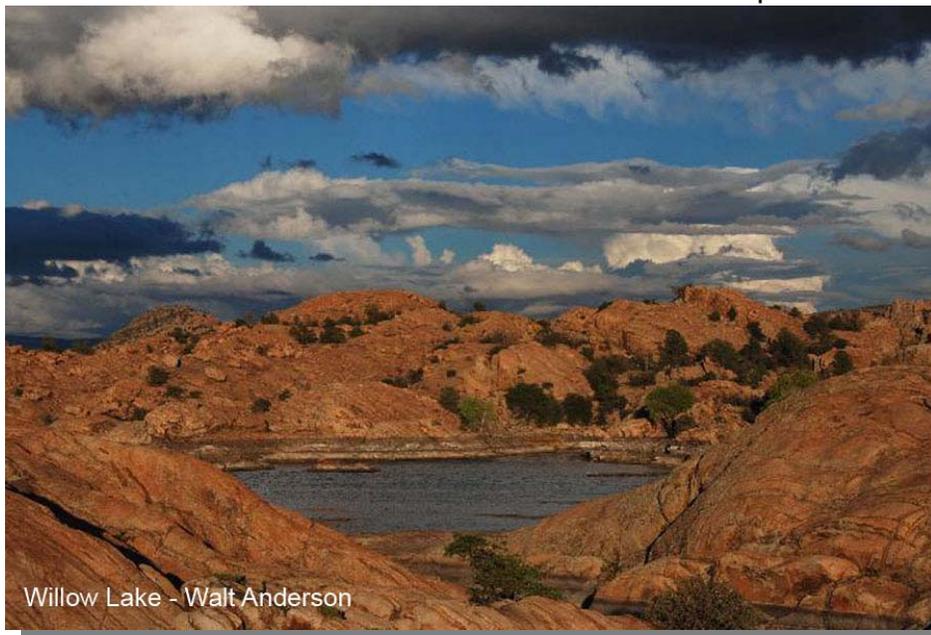
from United Christian Youth Camp on the coldest weekend of the winter, January 13 & 14 for a grand scale work event.



March 31, 2007 saw the grand re-opening and dedication of the Community Nature Center and Open Space Preserve. The Center was open, staffed, and well attended every Saturday and Sunday from April to October. Staff conducted nature walks, and coordinated a successful

astronomy event in October. The Community Nature Center hosted many school groups on weekdays throughout the year for the on-going tradition of educating children about nature.

Using the 1% sales tax for open space and streets, the Division purchased an 8.7-acre parcel in Granite Dells north of Willow Lake that will allow expansion of city-owned open space and the future extension of the Willow Creek trail corridor.



Willow Lake - Walt Anderson

A view from the 8.75-acre open space purchase completed in December near Willow Lake. This purchase will allow further expansion of wildlife corridors and the Willow Lake Trail.